

Northeast ISOs Seams Resolution Report History of Seam Issues Resolution

2000

1. **May 2000 – NY EMERGENCY TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH PJM** – ensures that energy will flow across control area boundaries during emergency situations
2. **June 2000 - NYISO DATA FEED FOR PJM E-DATA TOOL** – provides NY zonal and generator LBMP data electronically for display on PJM's e-Data tool.
3. **August 2000 – NY EMERGENCY TRANSFER AGREEMENTS WITH ISO-NE** – ensures that energy will flow across control area boundaries during emergency situations
4. **Sept 2000 – NY PREVENTION OF TRANSACTION BID PRODUCTION COST GUARANTEE GAMING -** by scheduling transactions in NY and canceling them (or not scheduling them) in neighboring control areas, resulting in improper payments in NY and ramping difficulties in PJM. Immediate corrective action taken with a permanent fix implemented in the NY market software making this gaming scheme unprofitable.

2001

5. **Jan 2001 – PJM CHANGES TIMING REQUIREMENTS** – PJM implemented new business rules to allow schedule changes through the Enhanced Energy Scheduling (EES) system with only 20 minutes notice.
6. **Feb 2001 – NY RESERVE SHARING WITH ISO-NE** – Phase 1 allows NY to include 300 MW from ISO-NE as 30-min. reserves. Phase II (sharing of up to 100MWs of 10-minutes reserves) effective 6/15/01.
7. **March 2001 – NY TRANSACTION CURTAILMENT NOTIFICATION MESSAGES** – enhanced communication process by improving informational messages when transactions are not scheduled or curtailed.
8. **April 2001 – PJM MODIFIES NYPP-E/NYPP-W LMP DEFINITION** – PJM's NYPP-W and NYPP-E interface points are combined into a single New York Interface point. The two interfaces will continue to be used but the price at these points will be the same and reflect the definition of a single NY interface point.
9. **May 2001 – NY EMERGENCY TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH HQ** – ensures that energy will flow across control area boundaries during emergency situations
10. **June 2001 – NY'S IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSACTION SCHEDULING DESK** – NYISO implemented an additional scheduling position in the Control Room that can be directly accessed by market participants to address real-time scheduling questions and problems. Timely provision of information reduces business risk and facilitates a level playing field for all MP's.
11. **June 2001 – PJM IMPLEMENTATION OF CSS** – PJM implements the Collaborative Scheduling System (CSS), which is part of the EES system. It allows users to submit scheduling information to one place and the information is sent to the NY MIS system for processing.
12. **June 2001 – PJM/NY COORDINATION OF IN-DAY TRANSACTION SCHEDULES TO HELP CONTROL RAMPING ISSUES** – To help control ongoing ramping problems between NY/PJM schedules, PJM implemented an approval process for all hourly (HAM equivalent) PJM/NYISO schedules. These schedules will only be approved and hold ramp after being checked out hourly with the NY-ISO.
13. **Dec 2001 – NY MULTI-HOUR BLOCK TRANSACTIONS** - Develop process to accept and schedule external LBMP energy transactions with minimum run times. Allows a marketer to arrange the 5-day by 16-hour market products commonly offered in existing Trading Markets.

2002

- 13a. **Jan 2002 – ISO-NE AND NYISO ANNOUNCE AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH COMMON MARKET DESIGN AND EVALUATE A SINGLE RTO** – Provides for the development of a plan to establish a common market design and to evaluate a New England and New York RTO.
- 14. **Jan 2002 – PJM IMPLEMENTS NYIS INTERFACE LMP** – The NYPP-W and NYPP-E interface points are converted into a single New York Interface point (NYIS).
- 14a. **Jan 2002 - PJM AND MISO ANNOUNCE PLAN TO DEVELOP A JOINT AND COMMON WHOLESALE MARKET** – Covers all or parts of twenty seven (27) Midwest and mid-Atlantic states, the District of Columbia, and the province of Manitoba. This removes the potential for seams over a large portion of the Eastern Interconnection.
- 15. **Feb 2002 – NY TRANSACTIONS PRESCHEDULING** - An external LBMP or wheel-through preschedule request may be submitted up to 18 months prior to the effective transaction date. A preschedule request is checked for ramp and ATC before being approved. It is then given economic priority in the scheduling software over other external transactions that are not prescheduled, to provide the greatest certainty that the transaction will flow. NYISO implementation of Long-term Pre-scheduling provides comparable treatment of long-term firm service with PJM firm and “non-firm willing to pay congestion” service options. Long-term pre-scheduling allows preferential (firm) treatment of transactions, consistent with PJM & ISO-NE SMD 1.0, and addresses scheduling requirements for bundled ICAP/Energy products.
- 15a. **April 2002 - PJM AND ALLEGHENY POWER SYSTEM FORM PJM WEST** - The larger energy market provides one market with a common transmission tariff, business practices and market tools, thus eliminating seams issues between Allegheny Power and PJM.
- 16. **May 2002 - ISO-NE CHANGES TO ICAP RULES** - amending procedures for submitting external ICAP transactions between ISO-NE and NYISO. The changes to ISO-NE Market Rule 4 insure that imports from NY to NE will not exceed the TTC of the New York ties.
- 17. **May 2002 - ISO-NE RULE CHANGES TO PERMIT/FACILITATE SNETS FROM ISO-NE TO NY** – FERC Order dated 4/26/2002; ISO-NE can use all available resources to support short notice external transactions (SNETs) as long as ISO-NE replacement reserves aren't depleted in doing so. The short-notice scheduling capability gives market participants the ability to schedule new transactions on an hourly basis in a manner compatible with the hourly market. Results from Summer 2002 indicate a 31% increase in MWh exports and a 54% increase in the number of contracts from New England to New York.
- 18. **May 2002 – NY TRANSACTIONS REINSTATEMENT** - for transactions curtailed for in-hour due to reliability violations. NYISO will reinstate external transactions in-hour as soon as the reliability problem is resolved (previously the transaction had to wait until the next hour-ahead commitment run).
- 19. **May 2002 – NY HOUR-AHEAD CLOSING TIME CHANGED FROM 90 TO 75 MINUTES** - to allow for closer coordination with ISO-NE, which uses a 75-minute closing time. This allows MPs to use more current information in formulating transaction strategy.
- 20. **May 2002 - INTERIM TRANSACTION CHECKOUT BETWEEN NYISO AND ISO-NE** - This NYISO/ISO-NE Interim Transaction Checkout Tool addresses a seams issue requirement to enhance checkout for summer 2002 until OSS is deployed. It provides an electronic means of sharing transaction information to assist the operators during checkout and identify transaction issues more easily.
- 21. **May 2002 – IMO SEAMS INITIATIVES** – implemented a procedure that permits staggered HAM closing times – IMO generally closes their market to MP's 2 hours before the hour – a process is in place that will evaluate their accepted NY import/export bids in the hour-ahead commitment. Also, an interconnection agreement between NYISO and the IMO was made effective on May 1, along with several critical joint control room procedures.

22. **May 2002 – NY EMERGENCY TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH IMO** – ensures that energy will flow across control area boundaries during emergency situations
23. **May 2002 – NYISO FILING FOR ICAP DELIVERABILITY TO PJM** – NYISO filed with FERC on May 24 to modify its tariff to provide delivery of ICAP purchased by PJM from NY suppliers, allowing NY generators the opportunity to meet the PJM deliverability requirement and participate in the PJM ICAP market.
- 23a. **June 2002 – IMO, ISO-NE, NYISO SIGN AGREEMENT TO WORK COOPERATIVELY TO HARMONIZE MARKET RULES, ELIMINATE SEAMS ISSUES AND DEVELOP LARGER MARKETS** – Goal is to develop larger markets for energy and ancillary services. Elimination of export charges is a priority.
24. **June 2002 - DISPLAY TTC/ATC FOR ALL INTERFACES ON NPCC WEBSITE** – provides market participants with a single location to view the most limiting values across neighboring control area interfaces. NPCC has developed a website where regional MP's can view in one location the TTC/ATC values for all regional interfaces.
25. **June 2002 – NY/PJM IMPLEMENT PLAN TO ENHANCE CONGESTION MANAGEMENT** - Under specific conditions between NY and PJM through control room operating procedures. The pilot provides a means to relieve congestion in western PJM by shifting generation in NYISO.
26. **June 2002 – NY AND NE AREA CONTROL ERROR (ACE) DIVERSITY EXCHANGE INITIAL DEPLOYMENT** - Intended to enhance regulation performance. Initial implementation with NYISO and ISO-NE participating; other NPCC Control Areas to participate when IT resources are available. Takes advantage of the diversity among the control areas to reduce the burden on regulating units that should aid regulation performance.
27. **July 2002 – NY IN-DAY COMMITMENT AND SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENTS** - This project implements consistent treatment of reserves in NYISO's hourly and real-time markets which will improve price convergence at the proxy (boundary) transaction busses with the neighboring control areas.
- 27a. **August 2002– NPCC ENHANCEMENT/EXPANSION OF LAKE ERIE EMERGENCY REDISPATCH** – NPCC FERC filing to add the MISO as a signatory and incorporate new settlement provisions.
28. **Oct 2002 (Orig. Date Sept. 2002) – NY INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH HQ/TE** - In addition, review of potential for increasing the 7040 transmission line import limit above 1500 MW and evaluation of ways to better utilize NY-HQ-ISO-NE DC facilities are scheduled to be addressed by the end of 2002.
29. **Dec 2002 – COORDINATION OF CONTROLLABLE TIE LINES (PHASE-ANGLE REGULATORS) BETWEEN NY AND PJM** - for both day-ahead and real-time to support the ultimate FERC ruling on the PSEG-ConEd wheeling contracts. NYISO & PJM will develop procedures to coordinate the setting of the PARS and address it in their respective unit commitment and dispatch programs. As of Jan. 2003, settlement discussions ended. FERC Order issued on Phase I. Phase II issues assigned to ALJ. Initial briefs are due in late January.
- 29a. **Dec 2002 – PJM IMPLEMENTS SPINNING RESERVES MARKET** – The Spinning Market for PJM was implemented on December 1, 2002. Spinning reserves consist of extra power plant generating capacity that is kept running so it can be used on short-notice to respond to increased demand or to supplement an unexpected drop in generation on the grid. Power suppliers will be paid a per megawatt hour market clearing price to provide spinning reserve services – a pricing schedule that has been approved by the FERC.

2003

30. **1st Quarter 2003 - ISO-NE TO IMPLEMENT SMD 1.0** –Under SMD 1.0, ISO-NE will implement LMP with day-ahead and real-time balancing markets similar to those utilized in PJM and NYISO. To be implemented 3/1/03 pending successful completion of market trials.
38. **March 2003 – OPEN SCHEDULING SYSTEM (OSS) FOR SEAMS ISSUES** – OSS will be implemented as a “one-stop shopping” tool enabling interregional transactions. Specific seams-issues-related features are:
- Checkout of transaction failures through OSS Phase II - Define processes that will minimize transaction failures due to missing or mismatched data.
 - Ramping - Allow multiple schedule changes per hour.
 - Transaction scheduling via OSS – Defines a single system for managing inter-ISO transactions and allocating interface transfer capability.
 - ATC/TTC posting via OSS - Coordination and consistency with neighboring control areas is required.
- Initial deliverables in 4Q 2002 included one-stop-shop for external transactions between NYISO-PJM. Market trials successfully completed in December 2002. Additional functionality as described above will be deployed in 2003 to support the NYISO RTS development.
31. **1st Quarter 2003 – ISO-NE ICAP IMPLEMENTATION** – ISO-NE to implement NYISO-based ICAP market as part of SMD 1.0. New England market will conform to New York product definitions, schedules and auction processes. . To be implemented 4/1/03 pending successful completion of market trials.
35. **Projected June 2003 – LAKE ERIE SYSTEM REDISPATCH PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION** - This NPCC procedure allows the redispatch of suppliers across regions to alleviate the potential curtailments of transactions due to TLR requests whenever a control area is in an energy short situation. The project requires implementation of operating procedures and billing and settlement process to account for the regional redispatch. (Project on hold, pending development of PJM/MISO’s regional congestion management process)
- 35a. **Projected Summer 2003** – Maritimes become participants in ACE Diversity Interchange Process.
36. **Projected 2003 – NY NEW TRADING HUBS** - Establish trading hubs as requested by market participants to provide locations that would facilitate and enhance trading activity in the New York Market.
37. **Projected 2003 – NY TCC OPTIONS FOR EXTERNAL INTERFACES** – TCC Options on external interfaces will allow parties to hedge congestion on long-term transactions. TCC options differ from TCC obligations in that the TCC holder would not pay the NYISO if the value of a TCC option were negative in any hour.
39. **Projected 2003 - ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTERNAL 30-MIN. RESERVES PARTICIPATION IN NYISO** - 1st draft white paper complete Feb. 2002. Currently being addressed by NPCC TFCO CO-1 WG.
- 39a. **Projected 2003 (NEW) – EXPANSION OF REGIONAL RESERVE SHARING** – NPCC will coordinate the implementation of a 100 MW reserve sharing pilot among NPCC members and PJM to improve regional reserve market efficiency.

2004

32. **1st Quarter 2004 (Orig. Date 2003) – NY REAL-TIME SCHEDULING (RTS) IMPLEMENTATION** – Real-Time Scheduling (RTS) is a major portion of the overall SMD 2.0 and involves developing new real-time commitment (RTC) and dispatch (RTD) software in place of the current hour-ahead commitment and real-time dispatch modules. The RTS time frame extends from 5 minutes in the future to 2½ hours in the future. During this period, generating units may be started or shut down, or the output of energy resources may be adjusted. Commitment and decommitment decisions are made every 15 minutes by the real-time commitment (RTC) process. Decisions to adjust the output of internal energy suppliers (dispatch) are made every 5 minutes by the real-time dispatch (RTD) process, as is the calculation of energy and ancillary services prices. RTS / SMD 2.0 development by NYISO enhances existing long-term pre-scheduling options (by providing automated check outs) and introduces In-day Pre-scheduling to complete the needed functionality in the real-time environment. With this development, all 3 Northeast ISO's will explicitly treat firm/non-firm transmission service comparably. In-day Pre-scheduling also addresses real-time ICAP recall requirements for capacity emergencies to assure ICAP deliverability providing comparable treatment to ICAP suppliers with firm tie line reservations.
33. **Projected 2004 (Orig. Date 2003 but changed as a result of SMD NOPR) - REGIONAL RESOURCE ADEQUACY MODEL (RAM) GROUP (formerly ICAP/JCAG Working Group)**– Set up to address ways to move the various ICAP markets closer in NYISO, PJM and ISO-NE. The goal is to make ICAP tradable anywhere in the northeast. The Joint Capacity Adequacy Group (JCAG) developed initial recommendations in mid 2002. The initial work plan was reassessed in light of the SMD NOPR and the joint ISOs/RTOs filed joint comments addressing resource adequacy on January 10, 2003. The comments described a central market-based resource adequacy framework, which is consistent with the goals of the SMD NOPR. The goal of the joint ISOs/RTOs is to work through the remaining issues with stakeholders in 2003 and to seek approval in 2004 for implementation of a new resource adequacy mechanism.
34. **1st Quarter 2004 (Orig. Date 2003) - HARMONIZE NEW YORK DEMAND RESPONSE PROGRAMS WITH ISO-NE** – New England currently allows qualified demand response providers to act as reserves and also permits demand response providers to supply real-time demand reduction when prices reach preset levels; they do not have New York's Day-Ahead Demand Response Program or Emergency Demand Response Program equivalents. Proposals are under development to offer all four programs in NYISO and ISO-NE as part of SMD 2.0.
40. **1st Quarter 2004 (Orig. Date 2003) - NYISO TO IMPLEMENT SMD 2.0** - SMD 2.0 builds upon SMD 1.0 as well as the RTS and OSS projects and incorporates a number of "Best Practice" improvements from New York; includes all key features of FERC SMD.

Issues Under Discussion

Issues that have been brought to the attention of the ISOs but have either not yet resulted in a specific initiative or the initiative has not been approved as a project by the stakeholder process (Date the issue was added to the list is shown at end of each item).

TRANSMISSION SERVICE CHARGE DISCOUNTING - ability for TOs to discount TSC rates on external interfaces to selectively reduce export charges and encourage use of ties. The software capability exists, however, there does not appear to be any business incentives to exercise discounts. (Oct. 2002)

IMPROVED TTC/ATC POSTING – Monthly and yearly posting of TTC/ATC values to support transaction pre-scheduling. Clarify how the ATC values calculated by each ISO should be used to ascertain the ability of the interface to support transactions. (Oct. 2002)

MULTIPLE TRANSMISSION SERVICE CHARGE INVOICING - Companies that conduct business across Control Area borders are faced with receiving a TSC bill from each TO. A single charge should be provided for each transaction to the appropriate parties and revenues allocated to the TOs according to the appropriate usage formulas. (Oct. 2002)

TRANSMISSION INTERCONNECTION PROCEDURES - Need consistent approach to treating merchant transmission interconnection agreement and procedures among the ISOs. (Oct. 2002)

CONTROLLABLE LINE SCHEDULING – Concept of Operations for general methodology to schedule controllable lines has been drafted. A multi-ISO stakeholder group (similar to JCAG) needs to be formed to review the draft Concept of Operations to provide stakeholder input. (Oct. 2002)

INTER-CONTROL AREA CONGESTION MANAGEMENT/PARALLEL FLOW MANAGEMENT – develop congestion hedges across control area boundaries. (Oct. 2002)

CROSS-BORDER PRICE CONVERGENCE – The lack of price convergence at the control area boundaries may inhibit the desire of market participants to arbitrage between neighboring markets. This issue is being referred to the individual ISO Market Committees for further definition of the business issue that needs resolution. (Jan. 2003)

IMPROVED INDEPENDENT CONTROL AREA RAMP LIMIT INFORMATION – The ISOs should update ramp data consistent with the actual capability of their respective systems at a given time and provide the ramp information to the marketplace. The NPCC website should be modified to add a column of data to show the most limiting TTC for a given interface (the information is currently being posted). (Jan. 2003)

MULTIPLE PROXY BUSES FOR FREE-FLOWING INTERFACES – There is a desire to provide east and west scheduling points for transactions on the NYISO-PJM interface. This issue is being referred to the individual ISO Market Committees to discuss and refine the business issue definition. (Jan. 2003)

PARTIAL UNIT ICAP SALES – New England's initial implementation of SMD does not support the sale of ICAP to external control areas from portions of units. The Commission has directed that this functionality be added to SMD by no later than implementation of the SMD NOPR. ISO-NE is considering several options for resolving this issue. (Jan. 2003)

DIFFERENT RAMPING RULES – SMD 2.0 to address via 15-minute scheduling changes; statistics indicate NYISO rarely curtails transactions due to ramping constraints; working with PJM to include PJM ramp limits in OSS. Operations should look at the short-term ability to make 30-minute schedule changes between NY and PJM. (Jan. 2003)

RATE PANCAKING – ISOs should participate in initiatives to eliminate rate pancaking. The elimination of rate pancaking, resulting in a single access charge, should promote inter-regional trade and increase competition (Jan. 2003).